

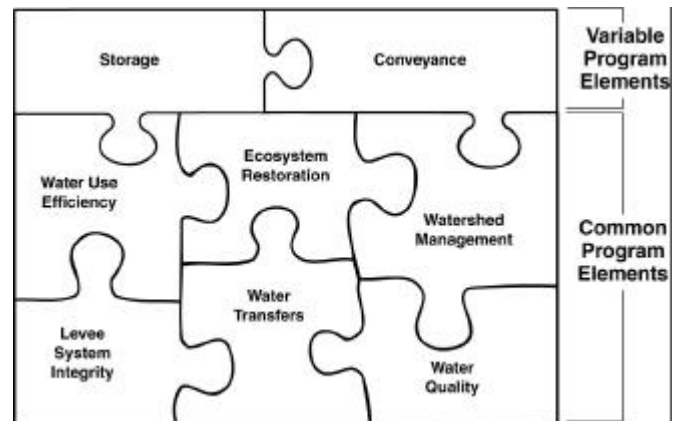


# Alternative 1

## Existing System Conveyance

### What's an "Alternative?"

The alternatives for a Bay-Delta solution are made up of building blocks referred to as Program elements. Originally, Program elements common to each alternative included levee system integrity, water quality, ecosystem restoration and water use efficiency. During Phase II of the Program, two additional Common Programs evolved from the original four based on public input and technical analysis. These are watershed management and water transfers. Variable elements include storage and conveyance (the way water is moved through the Bay-Delta system).



### Common Program Elements

Common Programs are those actions that are so fundamental in addressing Bay-Delta system problems that they should not be optional. They form the foundation for overall improvement of the Bay-Delta system, represent a significant investment in the system and will significantly reduce the system's resource conflicts. *For a full description of each Common Program, refer to the Common Programs fact sheets, available on the CALFED website or by calling 800-700-5752.*

**Ecosystem Restoration** — Provides significant improvements in habitat for the environment, restoration of some critical flows and reduced conflict with other Delta system resources. Alternative 1 would include the following refinements to this Common Program:

- Changes in environmental water flows would be met through purchase of existing water from willing sellers and use of the new storage allocated to environmental water supplies.
- Aquatic habitat restoration identified for the south Delta area would be relocated to the northern and western Delta. This change would provide intensive habitat restoration to be located prudently distant from the south Delta pumping facilities.
- Incorporate a portion of identified south Delta wildlife habitat with the setback levees along Old River.

**Levee System Integrity** – Provides significant improvements in the reliability of the Delta levees to benefit all users of Delta water and land.

**Water Quality Program** -- Makes significant reductions in point and non-point source pollution for the benefit of all water uses and the Bay-Delta ecosystem. In Alternative 1, increased emphasis on control of Delta Island drainage will be necessary to achieve improvements in organic carbon concentrations in export water treated for drinking. Potential approaches include treatment and rerouting drainage.

**Watershed Management Coordination** -- Encourages locally led watershed management activities that benefit all Delta system resources.

**Water Use Efficiency** -- Provides policies for efficient use of water in agricultural and urban settings and environmental purposes, which is essential to using existing water supplies wisely and assuring efficient use of any new supplies developed through the Program.

**Water Transfer Policy** -- Provides a policy framework to facilitate and encourage a properly regulated water market to move water between users, including environmental uses, on a voluntary and compensated basis.

## Variable Program Elements

In addition to the Common Program elements, some of the alternatives include provisions for new or expanded water storage. Each alternative was evaluated with a range of storage from zero to six million acre feet. All alternatives include modification of Delta conveyance. Following are the storage and conveyance features for Alternative 1.

